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North Korean Army Officer Training

- On 1 August 1952, a North Korean army officer training school with 40 high-ranking student officers was in civilian houses in Unsa-dong (125-33, 39-00) (YD-2119).¹ There were seven officers who acted as instructors and clerks but the important instruction was conducted by a Soviet military adviser, a Chinese Communist army officer and a Communist Party² official. After 6 months of training, which included intelligence and ordnance instruction, the students were to be assigned to army corps and divisions.
- On 28 August, the North Korean army political staff officer's school, formerly at Kanggye (126-36, 40-58) (BA-9837), was moved to Hyongin-ni, Taebo-myon (125-34, 39-02) (YD-2223). The commandant was General CHONG Ch'ol-u (6774/0772/1342), former commander of the 17 Division, and the senior adviser was Colonel V. P. Miranov, former member of the Soviet political advisory group. The students, who were captains, majors and lieutenant colonels, were divided into eight classes with 40 officers in each class. After approximately 3 months of training, the officers were to be assigned to the political departments of army divisions.

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Training of North Korean Civilian Youths

3. On 28 August, the North Korean government had resumed training programs for all government employees of military age,³ who were exempted from the draft, to prevent their conscription by the Chinese Communist army. Korean Democratic Youth Alliance cells have established military basic training centers in the towns and villages, and members perform military drill daily. Approximately 60,000 men and 70,000 women were to receive a 3-month course by the end of October 1952.

Special Armed Self-Defense Unit Training in South Hamgyong Province

4. In July, the first class of members of the Special Armed Self-Defense Unit of South Hamgyong Province⁴ began training in the former Fifth People's Grade School at approximately 128-47, 40-31 (DV-819852). The course was scheduled for 12 days monthly between the twelfth and the twenty-third days of the month and was conducted by three North Korean army senior lieutenants and two lieutenants. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., instruction was given in basic military subjects including combat and the use of hand grenades, and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., combat exercises were held. Graduates of the course were to be assigned to self-defense units throughout South Hamgyong Province as leaders or regular members. Three dugouts 2 meters deep were prepared 30 meters north of the school for use in training and as air raid shelters.

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1. [] Comment. [] the People's Army Supreme Military Academy with approximately 200 students was in the village of Unsa-dong.

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2. [] Comment. Presumably a representative of the North Korean Labor Party is meant here.

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3. [] Comment. It is not clear from the text whether or not the training program involves only government employees. Presumably it is designed to include all youths who are likely to be conscripted by the Chinese Communist army.

4. []

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